

**A RACHEOSPILA SPECIES FROM TULARE CO.  
CALIFORNIA APPARENTLY UNDESCRIBED**

(Lepidoptera, Geometridae)

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In 1944, while the author was studying the genus *Chlorosea* Packard, there appeared in a box of Hemitheinae, on loan from the Los Angeles County Museum, a single male of a fine species which the author did not recognize but then considered probably belonging to the genus *Nemoria*. This spring a good series of this species was brought to the author by his good friend Christopher Henne of Glendora, California and the long palpi of a female in the series showed that the insect belonged to the genus *Racheospila* Guenee not fitting too well in either I or II of Prout's divisions. It is probably best placed in section II for vein 8 of the secondaries anastomoses shortly with the cell, 6 of the primaries is approximately connate with 7 and the abdomen carries embossed white distal spots. However, the male antennal pectinations are definitely short.

***Racheospila hennei* sp. n.**

Male and female. Front and vertex dull rose, white between the antennae, neck green, antennal shaft white becoming ochre distally. Legs; coxa and femur green, darker inwardly, tibiae and tarsi rose. Palpi in females long,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times the diameter of the eye, third joint long, rose. Thorax chromium-green, abdomen green laterally and beneath, dorsally decorated with rose triangles pointed toward the thorax, in all except the last two segments in which the triangles point backward, and decorated with central white spots. Spot and rose triangle in first segment, small, on second, large, on third about as on first, fourth, fifth and sixth segments have entire dorsal area roseate, the color extending slightly down each side, fourth and fifth segments have large white spots, sixth, seventh and eighth have none. Rose triangle on seventh and eighth segments small.

Forewings: chromium green, costa narrowly rose-pink from base to apex. T.a. line white, heavy,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mm. broad, from  $\frac{1}{3}$  out on costa curves slightly and irregularly outward to inner margin at  $\frac{2}{5}$ . T.p. line heavy, nearly straight from costa at  $\frac{2}{3}$  out to inner margin at  $\frac{4}{5}$ . Terminal line narrow, unbroken, rose. Fringe rose-pink, whitish basally, slight rose-pink checkering at ends of veins. Discal dot rose-brown, small. Hindwings: concolorous with primaries, t.a. line more evenly rounded than on forewing,

from 1/3 out on costa to 1/3 on inner margin; t.p. line subparallel to outer margin, 2/3 out. Tiny rose-brown discal dot, terminal line and fringes as on primaries. Beneath as above but less bright. Expanse 28 to 32 mm.

*Holotype* ♂, Smoky Valley, Tulare Co., California, June 15, 1945, 6300 ft. elevation, C. Henne, coll. and in the Sperry Collection.

*Allotype* ♀, same data June 18, 1943 and in the Sperry Collection.

*Paratypes*, 19 ♂ 7 ♀, June 7 to 19, 1944 and 1945, C. Henne, Coll.; 6 ♂ 5 ♀, June 16 to July 3, 1951 and 1952, Charles H. Ingham, Coli.; 1 ♀ Lower Chimney Meadows, Tulare Co., Calif. June 19, 1943, C. Henne; 1 ♀ Quaking Aspen, Tulare Co., Calif. June 20, 1936; and 2 ♂ Greenhorn Mountains, Calif. July 2, 1937, M. L. Walton, collector.

It gives me much pleasure to name this interesting *Racheospila* in honor of my friend of long standing, Mr. Christopher Henne, of Glendora, California, able entomologist in his own right and indefatigable collector among the mountains and on the deserts of the Southwest. We are in his debt for much that we know of the habitat of the lepidoptera of this interesting region. May his Coleman lanterns twinkle for many years to come among the pleasant places of this our hunting ground.

Superficially this species seems closest to *glaucomarginaria* B. & McD. being about the same size, with much heavier lines and with terminal lines and fringes rose instead of ocher. The lines are more nearly as in *obliqua* Hulst, but heavier, the insect is much larger and the rose more intense. Insofar as the genitalia are concerned, *hennei* is unlike either of these species but closer to *obliqua*. In the ♂ the uncus is spatulate, somewhat as in *festaria* Hulst, the socii are small pads, not long and well developed as in the others. The valvae are similarly square topped but lack the heavy chitination of *glaucomarginaria* and *obliqua*. The projections at the base of the valves, which I have been calling furca arms for want of better name, are shaped like a calla lily petal in *hennei*, are flattened and mitten shape in *obliqua* and are spine-like and bifurcate in *glaucomarginaria*. The aedeagus is short, broad at the base narrowing to a sharp point apically in all three species, heavily toothed laterally for much of its length in *glaucomarginaria*, lightly toothed with a heavy, long terminal spine in *obliqua* lightly toothed at the base of the narrowed chitinated part and angled at the long, sharp tip in *hennei*. In the female genitalia the ostium is membranous in *hennei* and heavily chitinated in the others.

The species should probably be placed between *festaria* Hulst and *obliqua* Hulst in the North American list.